

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JAKART 14154 210944Z

15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 SCS-03 /066 W

----- 055556

R 210900Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO AMCONSUL MEDAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5384

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 14154

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT ID

SUBJ: ANTI-BAPTIST INCIDENTS IN BUKITTINGGI

FURTHER DELAY HOSPITAL OPENING

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING CALL ON CHARGE NOVEMBER 19, PROBLEM OF OPENING HOSPITAL IN BUKITTINGGI SAID FURTHER COMPLICATED BY RECENT DISCOVERY OF CLANDESITNE CAMPAIGN AGAINST BAPTISTS WHICH RESULTED IN ARRESTS OF NINE TO TWELVE EXTREMIST MOSLEM YOUTHS. CAMPAIGN, WHICH HAS PRODUCED VIGOUOUS RESPONSE FROM SECURITY AUTHORITIES, INCLUDED ANONYMOUS THREATS AGAINST BAPTIST PERSONNEL, DISTRIBUTION OF ILLEGAL PAMPHLETS, PLANNED DEMONSTRATIONS ANDPOSSIBLE ACTS OF VIOLENCE. END SUMMARY

1. APPLEWHITE SAID BAPTISTS BELIEVED THEY HAD FINALLY BROKEN LONG IMPASSE OVER HOSPITAL JUST BEFORE INCIDENTS OCCURRED BY OBTAINING WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM GOVERNOR ZAIN AND VERBAL PROMISE FROM MINISTER OF HEALTH IN EARLY OCT TO OPEN HOSPITAL WITH AMERICAN PERSONNEL, IN BOTH CASES, HOWEVER, PERMISSION SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY PRESIDENT.

2. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, APPLEWHITE RECEIVED THREATENING TELEGRAM SIGNED "MESJID RAYA, BUKITTINGGI", DEMANDING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JAKART 14154 210944Z

BAPTISTS LEAVE BUKITTINGGI. COPIESOF THIS TELEGRAM ALSO

SENT TO GOVERNOR ZAIN, DEPARMENT OF HEALTH AND OTHERS.
(EMBASSYRECEIVED SIMILAR MORE MILDLY WORDED APPEAL FROM
MESJID RAYA AT ABOUTTHE SAME TIME). BAPTISTS ALSO
RECEIVED THREATENING LETTER AND TELEPHONE CALL IN BUKITTINGGI.

3. ON OCTOBER 8 BUKITTINGGI POLICE ARRESTED NINE YOUTHS
DISTRIBUTING THREATENING PAMPHLETS OUTSIDE BAPTIST HOSPITAL,
AND THEE OTHER MEMBERS OF SUSPECTED GROUP WERE REPORTEDLY
ARRESTED LATER. POLICE SAID GROUP HAD PLANNED TO HOLD
UNAUTHORIZED DEMONSTRATION ON OCTOBER 9 AND THAT INCIDENTS
WERE TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH MEETING OF MOSLEM LEADERS IN
BUKITTINGGI. (POLICE HAD BANNED DISCUSSIONS OF "CHRISTIANI-
ZATION" ISSUE AT THIS MEETING).

4. APPLEWHITE SAID FILE SEIZED FROM SUSPECTED RINGLEADER
WHO WAS AMONG THOSE ARRESTED REPORTEDLY SHOWED CONSIDERABLE
KNOWLEDGE OF BAPTIST ACTIVITIES IN BUKITTINGGI AND OF
CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES ELSEWHERE IN INDONESIA. FILE ALSO
INDICATED THOSE OPPOSED TO HOSPITAL HAD REACHED
CONCLUSION THEY COULD NOT STOP IT FROM OPENING THROUGH
NORMAL CHANNELS AND WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER USING VIOLENCE,
PERHAPS KILLING BAPTISTS.

5. APPLEWHITE SAID SECUTITY AUTHORITIES ARE TAKING VERY
SERIOUS VIEW OF THESE INCIDENTS AND SUSPECT THEY MAY BE
ASSOCIATED WITH LARGER SUBVERSIVE EFFORT. HE SAID
SECURITY AUTHORITIES IN MEDAN, PADANG, AND JAKATA, INCLUDING
KOPKAMTIB, ARE INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATING THE CASE.

6. GOVERNOR ZAIN EXPLAINED TO APPLEWHITE AFTER OCTOBER 8
ARRESTS THAT THOSE NEW DEVELOPMENTS MAY CREATE FURTHER
DELAY AND THAT WHILE HE PERSONNALLY REMAINS SYMPATHETIC,
HE MUST PROCEED WITH GREAT CAUTION IN VIEW OF RECENT
EVENTS.

7. APPLEWHITE UNCERTAIN OF ULTIMATE EFFECT OF INCIDENTS
ON OPENING OF HOSPITAL; WHEREAS HE HAD EARLIER BELIEVED
SOME EXPRESSION OF INTERST TO GOI ON PART OF EMBASSY
MIGHT HELP MOVE THINGS ALONG, HE DOES NOT THINK THIS
IS ANY LONGER SO. HE FEELS GOVERNOR IS BASICALLY AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JAKART 14154 210944Z

GENUINELY SYMPATHETIC TO BAPTISTS ON HOSPITAL ISSUE AND
IS MOVING AS FAST AS HE CAN/DARES. HE CONTINUES TO DOUBT
THERE IS MUCH LOCAL ANTAGONISM TO HOSPITAL AND FEELS IT
IS BEING USED AS "PING-PONG BALL" IN LARGER POLITCAL
DISPUTE. IN MEANTIME, HE AND HIS WIFE AND OTHE BAPTISTS
AMERICANS IN BUKITTINGGI--MRS AND MRS TOM BAREN AND
MISS EVELYN HAYES--AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN
REASSURED BY AUTHORITIES ABOUT THEIR SAFETY, AND APPLE-

WHITE DOES NOT EXPECT RECURRENCE OF INCIDENTS.

8. AT CHARGE'S REQUEST, APPLEWHITE SAID HE WOULD VISIT
CONSULATEIN MEDAN DURING NEXT VISIT, OR HAVE BOB STUCKY
BRIEF CONSULATE FULLY ON LATEST EVENTS.
TOUSSAINT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROTESTANTS, RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JAKART14154
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740337-0223
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741125/aaaaaumw.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTI-BAPTIST INCIDENTS IN BUKITTINGGI FURTHER DELAY HOSPITAL OPENING
TAGS: PINT, ID
To: MEDAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005